GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4372
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2002
FALLING OF ROOF IN GOVERNMENT QUARTERS IN PUSHP VIHAR
SUBODH ROY

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether an unfortunate incident of death occurred recently due to falling of roof in Government quarters in Pushp Vihar has been brought to the notice of the Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any enquiry was conducted to ascertain the reasons for falling of the roof;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether it is a fact that Quality Control Committee which gave its report in early 1980s, has warned such eventuality on observing bad quality of work;

(f) if so, the other details of the reports of that committee; and

(g) the action were taken thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. A portion of the roof projection of Government quarters in Pushp Vihar had fallen. An old lady had died. However as per available information, the cause of death could not be established as neither an FIR waslodged nor any post mortem was carried out.

(c)&(d): An Inquiry Committee was constituted by the Directorate General, Central Public Works Department.As per enquiry report, the accident occurred due to failure of structure as concrete had lost its strength due to ingress of water through cracks. This remained un-checked making the concrete so weak that it could not sustain its own weight. Corrossion of reinforcement bar aggravated the condition causing total loss of bond strength. As a result loose concrete and mud phusca fell down without any warning, leaving behind the reinforcement bars in position. Placement of reinforcement was faulty as it was placed in bottom layers instead of top layers. Maintenance staff had not inspected the building from structural safety consideration despite noticeable signs of distress, frequent falling of plaster and falling of concrete from roof projection on earlier occasions.

(e): From the available records, only two quality control reports of CPWD quality control wing could be located.These reports do not contain any reference to bad quality of RCC in slabs or any warning about eventual falling of roof.No other report of quality control committee, as stated, is available.

(f)&(g): Does not arise in view of (e) above.